Elbert Willis Burns.
Mercersburg 1843

Vol. 1

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Birmingham Baptist Association.

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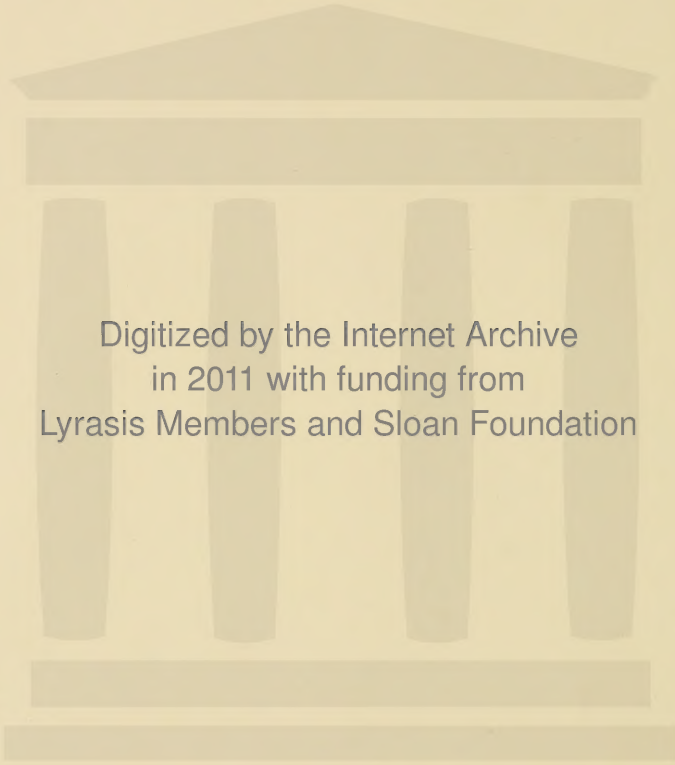
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MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

OF THE

CANAAN ASSOCIATION,

LD WITH SALEM CHURCH, JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALA.,

OCT. 4TH, 5TH, 6TH AND 7TH, 1856.

A. J. WALDROP, CLERK.

ELYTON:

PRINTED AT THE "CENTRAL ALABAMIAN" OFFICE;

1856.

MINUTES,

The Introductory Sermon was preached at the arbor of the Salem Church up Ground, by Bro. H. G. Smith, from Dan. II. 44, on Saturday, 4th of October, 1856, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Association then commenced its twenty-third session in the meeting ise of the Salem Baptist Church. It was called to order by Bro. H. G. ith, the former Moderator. The letters were read by A. J. Waldrop, from ich it appeared the following persons were authorized to act as delegates:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Free Chapel—G. Pope, J. A. Pope.
Mount Zion—R. Blythe, A. M. McLendon H. Pierson.
Bethel—J. Courson, T. Adkins, S. H. Chenault.
Salem—R. H. Erwin, M. Hagood, D. W. Anderson.
Central—G. Robertson, James Mann, J. Heifner.
Hebron—A. McDonald, *H. Moor*, H. B. Moor.
Cahoba—J. Byars, J. Carlisle, *D. Talley*.
Rehoboth—E. Wood, W. Eastis, A. J. Waldrop.
New Prospect—T. Franklin, W. A. Foster, Isaiah Franklin.

SECOND DISTRICT.

New Bethel—James Speakman, J. W. Smith.
Good Hope—Daniel Cannon.
Liberty—Not represented.
Rock Creek—H. G. Smith, S. T. Huey.
Big Creek—J. H. Waldrop, John Franklin.
Mud Creek—M. J. Parsons, Isham Hammond, R. Stone.
Union—Joseph Ayers, J. Wilks, R. Robertson.
Canaan—M. Goodwin, H. Armstrong, J. Massey.
Koop's Valley—Not represented.
Pride's Creek—E. Mitchel, W. Burchfield, A. D. Harney.
Friendship—C. Kemp.

Note.—Ordained Ministers in small capitals, Licentiates in italics.

The Association proceeded to ballot for officers, by appointing J. H. Ba- r Teller. The Teller announced for Moderator, H. G. Smith: for Re- ding Secretary, A. J. Waldrop: Corresponding Secretary, D. Talley. Visiting ministering brethren were invited to participate in the delibera- ons of the meeting.

An opportunity was afforded for the admission of churches newly consti- ted, when New Prospect came forward by letter and delegates, and being und orthodox, was cordially received.

Delegates from corresponding bodies were received.

From N. River—Bro. Harbin, letter and minutes.

From Shelby—Minutes by N. Haggard.

From Coosa River—J. Williams, A. Truss, T. Wood, letter and minute

Bro. P. S. Montgomery presented a letter from the Ten Island Associ tion proposing correspondence with this Association—proposition accept and Bro. Montgomery cordially received.

COMMITTEES WERE APPOINTED—

On Arrangement of Business—Byars, McDonald and Mitchel—Moder tor and Clerk added.

On Finance—E. Wood and H. Moor.

On Sabbath School—Huey, Hammand, Robertson and Pope.

On Documents—Talley, Hamer and Massey.

Bro. J. Williams was appointed to preach on to morrow morning at o'clock, A. M. A. J. Waldrop, by appointment of last year, preaches M sionary Sermon, and Hagood, Baker, Huey and Hanby to receive contri tions—same to be applied to Domestic and Indian Mission. Harbin preach in the evening.

Bro. McMath, Treasurer, sent his report, and also his resignation—rece ed. E. Wood appointed to fill said vacancy.

After prayer by Bro. Williams, adjourned till 9 o'clock Monday morni

SABBATH.—The stand was occupied by the brethren according to arran ments, who preached with great fervor to a very large audience, and think from indications, to much effect.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock

The Association was called to order, and Brother Byars led in Pra

The roll was read and absentees marked.

The Committee on arrangements reported.—Report concurred in Committee discharged.

Bro. J. T. Cain presented a letter of correspondence from the Tuscal Association, which was read, and Bro. Cain invited to a seat.

COMMITTEES REPORTED.

On Sabbath Schools—After an interesting discussion it was recommi to report in the evening. (See Appendix A.)

On Documents.—(See Appendix B.)

On Finance.—Not Ready.

CORRESPONDENCE RETURNED AS FOLLOWS:

To Tuscaloosa—Baker, Hagood, Smith, and Byers.

To Coosa River—Moor, Wood, and Waldrop.

To Shelby—McDonald.

To North River—Smith.

To Ten Island—Moor, Mann and Blake.

Bro. Smith, Domestic Missionary, made his report, (see Appendix C.) it was received, but was postponed for action till evening session.

Called for report of District meetings--

1st. Will be held at Ruhamah church, commencing Friday before the fourth Sabbath in July next, Bro. J. Byars to preach Introductory Sermon --H. Moor alternate. Bro. McDonald to preach Missionary Sermon--Waldrop alternate.

2d. Will convene with the Big Creek Church, commencing Friday before the first Sabbath in August, 1857. Mitchel to preach the Introductory Sermon—Smith alternate. Smith to preach Missionary Sermon—Thomison alternate.

The next Association will be held with the Rock Creek Church, Jefferson county, commencing Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1857. Bro. Mitchel to preach Introductory Sermon--Waldrop alternate. Smith to preach Missionary Sermon--Thomison alternate. Byars to write a Circular Letter, on a subject of his own choice—Baker alternate.

The Committee appointed to visit New Bethel Church, reported through their chairman, that some of the committee met the Church and found no grounds of charge—the reason of their not representing themselves was in part sickness. They report the church now doing well, except destitute of a regular supply--report received and committee discharged.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock this evening.

Evening session met pursuant to adjournment.—Prayer by the Moderator.

Committee on Finance made their report—(see Statistical table.)

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported—(see Appendix A.)—report received and committee discharged.

The Domestic Mission taken up. Agreed to continue our Domestic Mission operations upon our former plan, whereupon the sum of $116 was immediately pledged for said object, to be paid at the next Association, and the following members were appointed to raise funds for said object:—Pope, Pierse Courson, J. M. Franklin, Dillashaw, Inzer, Praytor, F. Wood, J. Smith, Cannon, T. F. Waldrop, Huey, J. H. Waldrop, Hammond, Wilks, Armstrong, Bargin, Hamer, Kemp and Bush, and T. F. Waldrop to receive and forward any funds that may be contributed in the destitute field—all to report to Treasurer by 25th December next.

Bro. Smith was again chosen to travel as Domestic Missionary--salary same as last year. He agrees to serve.

After Prayer by Bro. Byars, adjourned till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday morning, 8 o'clock, met. Prayer by the Moderator.

The following brethren were appointed a committee to revise the Constitution and report at the next Association, viz:—Byars, Heifner and Moor.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted by the Association:

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches the circulation of the "Great Iron Wheel" amongst them, and that we regard J. R. Graves a sound Theologian, and worthy of the confidence of our church.

Resolved, That we recommend the N. H. Confession of Faith to the churches for their adoption, and for them to report to this Association at its next session.

Ordered, That the funds taken up on Sabbath, of $41 60 for Indian Missions be paid to brother J. A. Collins, Agent of S. C. to be by him applied as ordered.

Ordered, That the Clerk superintend the printing the Minutes—that he have [illegible] any printing done as funds will pay for—that he reserve 100 copies for correspondence, and that he receive ten dollars for his services.

Read letters of correspondence,

Distributing agents were appointed viz: For 1st District—D. Talley. 2d—H. G. Smith.

Adjourned to meet at the time and place above mentioned.

H. G. SMITH, Moderator.

A. J. WALDROP, Clerk.

Appendix, Reports, &c.

APPENDIX A.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report, that we have had the same under consideration, and regret that we find so little doing among our churches.—There is but one Sabbath School in our bounds, and that at New Bethel church. Your Committee would recommend a school at *every* church in our Association—all of which is respectfully submitted.

S. T. HUEY, Chairman.

APPENDIX B.

We, your Committee on Documents, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration, and would recommend to the favorable consideration of this body the various benevolent operations of our State Associations and particularly the State Convention, and further we recommend the circulation of the "South-Western Baptist," "Tennessee Baptist," "Orchard's History of the Baptist," "Theodosia Earnest," and kindred publications, in all the churches as works of great value—all of which is respectfully submitted.

A. D. HAMER, Chairman.

APPENDIX C.

SYNOPSIS OF DOMESTIC MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

I [illegible] my labors immediately after the close of our last Association: I have [illegible] the [illegible] last year, except a portion of the week that I left for the [illegible] Association to [illegible] Missionaries in the field. I find the country [illegible] improving [illegible] of worship being erected, and great anxiety for preaching expressed. I have had the assistance of several ministers, viz: Chase, Peters, Arnold and Waldrop [illegible] and I trust to good. At a number of my meetings indications of the presence of the Lord were manifest, sinners were cut to the heart, mourners comforted and [illegible] received. I have spent 4½ months in the service of our Association, preached 116 sermons, travelled 1236 miles, constituted one church, assisted in the ordination of two Deacons, baptized [illegible] persons, [illegible] religion at the meeting I [illegible] reported.

H. G. SMITH, Domestic Missionary.

TREASURR'S REPORT.

Received from Churches for printing Minutes, - - - - - - $31 40
" " Association purposes, - - - - - - 19 40

Domestic Missonary Fund.

From former Treasurer, - - - - - $24 02½
" 1st District, - - - - - 22 00
Collection taken up at T. F. Waldrop's School-House, - - 5 25
From other sources, - - - - - 120 83
——— $172 10½

Disbursed—

To Clerk for services and paying for printing Minutes, - $31 40
" A. McDonald, Corresponding Messenger, - - - 5 00
" N. Skelton, " " - - - - 5 00
" H. G. Smith, Domestic Missionary, - - - 150 00
——— 191 40
Remaining for Association purposes, - - - 9 25
" Missionary Fund, - - - - 22 12½

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Names of the Churches.	Counties.	Additions by Baptism,	Dismissed by Letter,	Restoration	Excluded,	Dismissed by Letter,	Death,	Total,	Minute Fund,	Association Fund.
Free Chapel, - -	St. Clair.				2			14	75	From all the Churches, $19 40.
Mt. Zion, - - -	"	1	5	1	2	1	1	79	2 00	
Bethel, - -	"	8	7		1	7	1	68	1 75	
Central, - - -	Jefferson.		2		2	4	1	46	1 50	
Hebron, - - -	"	4	7		3	7		107	3 00	
Cahaba, - - -	"	5	1		1	8		72	2 50	
Ruhamah, - -	"	2	5	1	5	18	2	144	4 00	
New Bethel, - -	"	4	9					19	1 00	
Good Hope, - -	"	10	4			1		26	60	
Liberty, - -	"	Not represented.								
Rock Creek, - -	"	8	8		2	1	1	76	2 00	
Big Creek, - -	"							52	2 00	
Mud Creek, - -	"					1		44	1 10	
Prude's Creek, -	Tuscal'a,	18	4		2	2		56	2 00	
Union, - -	Jefferson,	1	2			3	1	48	1 00	
Canaan, - -	"	4	1	1	7	5	1	52	1 30	
Rupe's Valley, -	Tuscal'a,	8				12	1	65	2 00	
Friendship, -	Walker,		5			1		12	50	
New Prospect,	Jefferson,	Newly Constituted						15	50	
Salem, -	"	1			1	3	1	45	1 90	
		74	55	3	28	76	10	1040	31 40	